

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION Washington, DC 20463

MAY 1 - 2000

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> <u>RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED</u>

G. Michael Blessington, PC Law Offices 4111 N. Lincoln Boulevard Oklahoma City, OK 73105

RE:

MUR 4818/4933

Walt Roberts

Walt Roberts for Congress Chris Clark, as treasurer

Dear Mr. Blessington:

On April 25, 2000, the Commission found reason to believe that Walt Roberts, Walt Roberts for Congress and Chris Clark, as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 432(h), a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("Act"). The Supplemental Factual and Legal Analysis, which formed a basis for the Commission's finding, is attached for your information.

Pursuant to its investigation of these matters, the Commission has issued the attached Subpoena requiring Walt Roberts and Walt Roberts d/b/a/ Walt Roberts Auction Company, to provide information which will assist the Commission in carrying out its statutory duty of supervising compliance with the Act. The responses to the enclosed Subpoena must be submitted to the General Counsel's Office within 20 days of your receipt of this letter. Any additional materials or statements you wish to submit should accompany the response to the Subpoena. In the absence of additional information, the Commission may find probable cause to believe that violations have occurred and proceed with conciliation.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter, please contact Xavier K. McDonnell or Margaret Toalson, the attorneys assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Darryl R. Wold

Chairman

Enclosures:

Supplemental Factual and Legal Analysis Subpoena

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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In the Matter of)	
) MUR	4818 & MUR 4933
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SUBPOENA TO PRODUCE DOCUMENTS

TO: Walt Roberts and Walt Roberts d/b/a/ Walt Roberts Auction Company

c/o G. Michael Blessington, P.C.

Law Offices

4111 N. Lincoln Boulevard Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437d(a)(3), and in furtherance of its investigation in the above-captioned matter, the Federal Election Commission hereby subpoenas you to produce the documents listed on the attachment to this Subpoena. Legible copies which, where applicable, show both sides of the documents, may be substituted for originals. The documents must be submitted to the Office of the General Counsel, Federal Election Commission, 999 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20463, within twenty days of receipt.

WHEREFORE, the Chairman of the Federal Election Commission has hereunto set his

hand in Washington, D.C., on this

28th day of

April

2000.

For the Commission,

Darryl R. Wold Chairman

ATTEST:

Acting Secretary of the Commission

Attachments:

Instructions

Definitions

Document Request

INSTRUCTIONS

In answering this Subpoena to Produce Documents, furnish all documents and other information, however obtained, including hearsay, that is in possession of, known by or otherwise available to you, including documents and information appearing in your records.

Each response is to be given separately and independently, and is to repeat verbatim the document request to which it is responding. Unless specifically stated in the particular discovery request, no answer shall be given solely by reference either to another answer or to an exhibit attached to your response.

Should you claim a privilege with respect to any documents, communications, or other items about which information is requested by any of the following interrogatories or requests for production of documents, describe such items in sufficient detail to provide justification for the claim. Each claim of privilege must specify in detail all the grounds on which it rests.

Unless otherwise indicated, the following interrogatories and document requests shall refer to the time period from January 1, 1998 to the present.

DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of these discovery requests, including the instructions thereto, the terms listed below are defined as follows:

"You" or "your" shall mean the named respondent in this action to whom these discovery requests are addressed, including all officers; employees, whether paid or unpaid; supervisors; volunteers; agents or persons otherwise working on behalf of or at the request of the named respondent; co-workers; subordinates; staff or attorneys thereof.

"Persons" shall be deemed to include both singular and plural, and shall mean any natural person, partnership, committee, association, corporation, or any other type of organization or entity.

"Document" shall mean the original and all non-identical copies, including drafts, of all papers, records and magnetic or electronic media of every type in your possession, custody, or control, or known by you to exist. The term document includes but is not limited to books, letters, contracts, notes, diaries, log sheets, records of telephone communications, transcripts, vouchers, accounting statements, ledgers, checks, check registers, money orders or other commercial paper, telegrams, telexes, pamphlets, circulars, leaflets, reports, memoranda, correspondence, surveys, tabulations, audio and video recordings, drawings, photographs, graphs, charts, diagrams, lists, computer print-outs, and all other writings and other data compilations from which information can be obtained. If a document request calls for a document that is maintained on or in a magnetic, optical or electronic medium (for example, but not limited to computer tape, diskette, or CD-ROM), provide both "hard" (i.e., paper) and "soft" (i.e., in the

magnetic or electronic medium) copies, including drafts, and identify the name (e.g., WordPerfect, Microsoft Word for Windows, Pro Write, etc.) and version numbers by which the document(s) will be most easily retrieved.

"Identify" with respect to a document shall mean state the nature or type of document (e.g., letter, memorandum), the date, if any, appearing thereon, the date on which the document was prepared, the title of the document, the general subject matter of the document, the location of the document, the number of pages comprising the document, the author of the document, and all recipients of the document (including all persons, other than the primary recipient(s) of the document, who received copies, such as "cc" and "bcc" recipients).

"And" as well as "or" shall be construed distinctively or conjunctively as necessary to bring within the scope of these interrogatories and requests for the production of documents any documents and may otherwise be construed to be out of their scope.

DOCUMENT REQUESTS

- 1. Identify and produce all bank statements for the account in the name of Walt Roberts d/b/a Walt Roberts Auction Company (Acct #) for the period beginning December 1, 1997 and ending December 31, 1998.
- 2. In your prior sworn statement, dated February 24, 2000, you averred that you previously owned a "horse and stock trailer" which you sold to Jim Lane for \$20,500. Identify and produce all documents related to your acquisition, ownership and sale of the trailer, including but not limited to the receipt for your purchase, records related to the maintenance of the trailer, records related to registration of the trailer and records related to the sale of the trailer, including records used or kept for sales tax and income tax purposes. (The scope of this request is from the time of acquisition of the trailer until the present.)
- 3. In your prior sworn statement, dated February 24, 2000, you averred that during 1998 you sold Jim Smart two pieces of artwork for \$7,500 each. Identify and produce all documents related to your acquisition, purchase, creation, maintenance or sale of this artwork, including but not limited to receipts for your purchase and sale of the artwork, records for sales tax and inventory records for Walt Roberts Auction Company. (The scope of this request is from the time of acquisition or creation of the artwork until the present.)
- 4. Identify and produce all customer list(s) of the Walt Roberts Auction Company or any document(s) compiled by you, or used by you, for the purpose of listing persons you invited to any auction(s) held from 1998 to the present.
- 5. The Option Contract with Gene Stipe, which you produced with your letter of February 24, 2000, provides that Mr. Stipe was to pay you \$1,000 upon his exercise of the option. Identify and produce all documents related to the \$1,000 payment, and identify and produce any invoices from Mike Blessington, or any other attorney, for services rendered in connection with the drafting of the "Option Contract." (The scope of this request is from 1997 until the present.)
- 6. Identify and produce all documents related to payments you received from the Stipe Law Firm from 1996-99, including but not limited to work product (scripts of ads, tapes of ads), checks, invoices, documents used for or kept for tax purposes.
- 7. Identify and produce all documents related to payments you received from Gene Stipe from 1996-99, including but not limited to checks, invoices, documents used for or kept for tax purposes.

- 8. Identify and produce a copy of your 1996, 1997 and 1998 tax returns (state and federal).
- 9. Identify and produce all documents (not yet produced) that are related to the sale of any artwork or sculptures created by you from 1996 to present, including but not limited to receipts, invoices, contracts, agreements, documents related to sales and/or income taxes.

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

SUPPLEMENTAL FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

RESPONDENTS:

Walt Roberts for Congress

Chris Clark, as treasurer

Walt Roberts

MUR 4818

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"), provides that all receipts received by a political committee shall be deposited in an account or accounts designated by the committee for such purpose, and that no disbursements may be made by such committee except through such account or accounts. 2 U.S.C. § 432(h).

This issue involves disbursements made by candidate Walt Roberts. On August 19, 1998, Roberts wired \$55,000 from his Auction House account. The information at hand indicates that the \$55,000 payment was used to pay for a campaign media expense. If so, the candidate paid for a campaign expense from his auction company account rather than his committee's designated account. 2 U.S.C. § 432(h). Accordingly, there is reason to believe that Walt Roberts for Congress and Chris Clark as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 432(h). Given that the candidate had control over the funds in question and they came from his account, it appears that this transaction may have been made by Roberts in violation of 2 U.S.C. § 432(h). Accordingly, there is also reason to believe that Walt Roberts violated 2 U.S.C. § 432(h).